

CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS BY LABORATORY METHODS—**A Working Manual of Clinical Pathology**—12th Edition. James Campbell Todd, Ph.B., M.D., late Professor of Clinical Pathology, University of Colorado School of Medicine; Arthur Hawley Sanford, A.M., M.D., Emeritus Professor of Clinical Pathology, Mayo Foundation, University of Minnesota; and Benjamin B. Wells, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Arkansas. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1953. 998 pages, 946 illustrations on 403 figures, \$8.50.

The twelfth edition of this time-tested standard manual of clinical pathology contains comparatively little revision. Most of the changes have been made to bring various aspects of laboratory diagnosis into conformity with authoritative texts on particular subjects.

The reviewer believes that a text of this caliber should be more inclusive in its overall viewpoint and more complete in its scope. Although the authors may feel that detailed descriptions of all the tests on a subject cannot be given—for the argument, take the tests for liver function—mention of them might well be included so that the student could look further on his own. In the discussion of the biologic skin tests there is no mention of that for cat scratch fever, a disease which has provoked considerable interest during the past few years. The Table of Normal Values on pages 934 and 935 could be greatly expanded: There could be included also a brief discussion for the significance of some of the abnormal values.

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OPHTHALMOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS. F. Herbert Haessler, M.D., Professor and Director of the Division of Ophthalmology, Marquette University School of Medicine. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1953. 387 pages, \$8.00.

The book has nine chapters and 387 pages. The book is written for ophthalmological students. It is a practical office or bedside approach to ophthalmological problems. It puts emphasis on the patient as a human being and the handling of the patient as well as diseases of the eye.

Very little bibliography is used; rather, it is the writer's approach to these various problems.

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BRAIN SURGEON—The Autobiography of William Sharpe. William Sharpe, M.D., Director of Neurosurgery, Manhattan General Hospital, New York. Viking Press, Inc., 18 East 48th Street, New York, 1952. 271 pages, \$3.75.

As the title of this book strongly suggests, it is not written primarily for the specialist in surgical diseases of the nervous system—who shuns such a sobriquet—but rather is directed to the general reader who for one reason or another is interested in biography or medicine or doctors or neurological surgery. Physicians who help constitute this group, however, will find much of this autobiography to be interesting. The sections in which Dr. Sharpe recounts his concept of his own contribution in the early development of

neurological surgery, such as in "Cerebral Palsy," are of some historical import. Most readers, however, will find it to be an interesting series of personal yarns by a pioneer in a special field, which to many has seemed consistently to have excited more than its fair share of romantic appeal in the average person.

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PITUITARY CHROMOPHOBE ADENOMAS—Neurology, Metabolism, Therapy. John I. Nurnberger, M.D., Research Associate, the Institute of Living, and Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine (Neurology), Yale University School of Medicine; and Saul R. Korey, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology, the School of Medicine, Western Reserve University. Springer Publishing Company, Inc., 44 East 23rd Street, New York 10, 1953. 282 pages, \$7.00.

The limited field covered by this book is commented on by the authors in their preface; that almost 250 pages of text can be profitably devoted to the subject is open to question. Nonetheless, the authors have done a very good job of covering their subject, from the embryology of the pituitary to the treatment of its tumors. Whether any but the neurologist and endocrinologist will want to devote the time to reading the whole book is open to question, but it does provide an exhaustive reference work and should be useful in this regard.

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HANDBOOK OF DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS. Harold Thomas Hyman, M.D. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1953. 716 pages, \$6.75.

In this compressed, well systematized volume, the author attempts to give the practicing physician and student an aid to differential diagnosis. He also endows it liberally with the personality of Dr. Hyman.

Unfortunately, the book falls short of being the "volume of small bulk and large value in daily clinical practice" which he would have it, although it appears accurate enough. An example of the type of procedure one must go through may be illustrated by the search necessary to find the discussion of pain in the leg on walking. Employing the index of symptoms and signs (printed in blue paper), one looks for "Pain" on page xxiv and is referred to "Anatomic Site." Under "Legs" on page xx, one is referred to page 374, which is "Lower Extremities, Disturbances of." Here one is referred to "Pain of Lower Extremities," page 315—where one finds the headline "Hands and Feet, Fingers and Toes, Pain in and Tenderness of." After reading through a page and a half, one gets to tenosynovitis which is a condition he might be seeking. If this seems a little disturbing, one can always go back to an ordinary textbook.

The common symptoms of fatigue or tiredness are not listed as such but are hidden under the name of asthenia. On the other hand, it is easy to find a good deal of therapeutic and diagnostic advice which one may not desire.